



Released: February 18, 2004

Alfalfa seed production for 2003 was estimated at 2.1 million pounds, up 5% from the revised 2002 production. Harvested acreage at 6,200 was down 500 acres from last year's acreage of 6,700 acres. The state average yield was estimated at 335 pounds per acre, up from the 296 pounds per acre a year ago. Irrigated yields averaged 460 pounds per acre, up from 370 pounds in 2002 and non-irrigated yields averaged 90 pounds per acre, up 12 pounds from last year.

Producers used an average of 2.7 gallons of leaf cutter bees per acre on all acres harvested for alfalfa seed in 2003, compared with 3.1 gallons per acre in 2002. Leaf cutter bees were used on 39% of the reported irrigated acres at the

rate of 3.8 gallons per acre and 12% of the reported non-irrigated acres at the rate of 0.4 gallons per acre. Alfalfa seed growers who utilized leaf cutter bees produced an average of 23% more seed per acre irrigated acre and 11% more per non-irrigated acre than those that did not use bees to pollinate their crop.

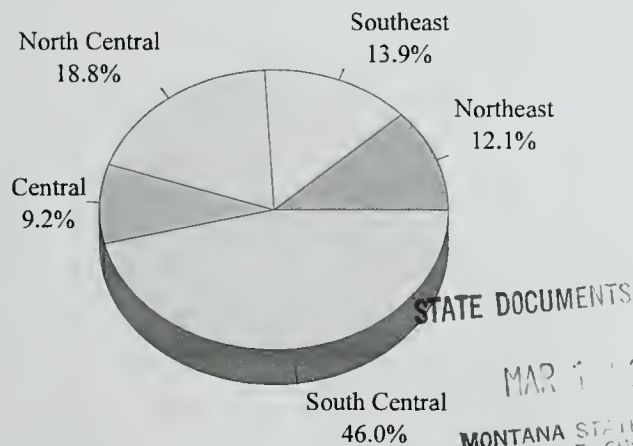
Proprietary varieties made up 23% of this year's production, common uncertified varieties accounted for 76% of the production and common certified varieties represented 1%.

The average price received for the 2003 crop was \$1.01 per pound, down 14 cents from last year's average price.

## Montana Leaf Cutter Bees

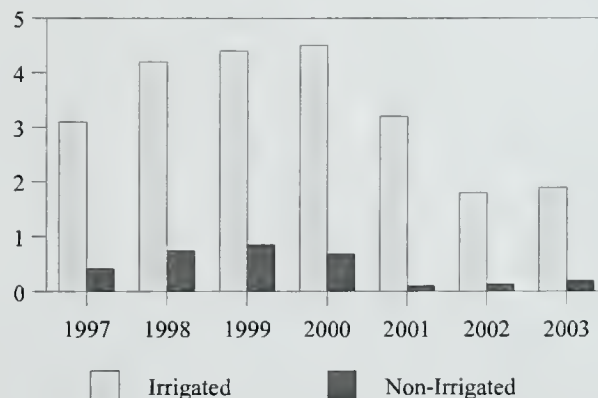
Year	Quantity Utilized Divided by Total Acres Harvested	Irrigated Acres		Non-Irrigated Acres	
		Acreage Utilized	Average Quantity Used	Acreage Utilized	Average Quantity Used
	Gallons/Acre	Percent	Gallons/Acre	Percent	Gallons/Acre
1998	1.3	—	—	—	—
1999	1.1	71	2.5	13	1.8
2000	1.5	74	3.0	19	1.3
2001	2.1	84	3.1	21	2.7
2002	3.1	72	3.3	12	2.5
2003	2.7	39	3.8	12	0.4

## Montana Alfalfa Seed 2003 District Production



## Montana Alfalfa Seed

Million Pounds 1997-2003 Production



STATE DOCUMENTS  
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MONTANA STATE  
1515 E. 6th  
HELENA, MONTANA

**ALFALFA SEED: Estimates by Agricultural Statistics Districts, 2003**

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	1,000	390	390,000	1,000	390	390,000	0	0	0
Northeast	700	360	252,000	500	470	235,000	200	80	16,000
Central	400	475	190,000	300	600	180,000	100	100	10,000
South Central	2,800	341	954,000	2,000	443	886,000	800	85	68,000
Southeast	1,300	222	289,000	300	650	195,000	1,000	95	95,000
Montana	6,200	335	2,075,000	4,100	460	1,886,000	2,100	90	189,000

**ALFALFA SEED: Estimates by Agricultural Statistics Districts, 2002**

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	1,300	412	535,000	1,300	412	535,000	0	0	0
Northeast	500	168	84,000	200	365	73,000	300	37	11,000
Central	500	322	161,000	400	393	157,000	100	40	4,000
South Central	3,200	328	1,049,000	3,000	342	1,026,000	200	115	23,000
Southeast	1,200	126	151,000	100	570	57,000	1,100	85	94,000
Montana	6,700	296	1,980,000	5,000	370	1,848,000	1,700	78	132,000

**ALFALFA SEED: Acreage, Production, Price, And Total Value, Montana, 1994-2003**

Year	TOTAL					IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Total Production	Price per Pound	Value of Production	Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Production Cleaned	Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Production Cleaned
	Acres	Pounds		Dollars		Acres	Pounds		Acres	Pounds	
1994	15,000	390	5,850,000	0.91	5,323,500	8,000	582	4,659,000	7,000	170	1,191,000
1995	12,300	280	3,450,000	1.07	3,691,500	7,100	369	2,618,000	5,200	160	832,000
1996	11,500	440	5,060,000	1.18	5,970,800	8,700	533	4,640,000	2,800	150	420,000
1997	13,500	262	3,540,000	1.25	4,425,000	8,500	368	3,129,000	5,000	82	411,000
1998	18,000	275	4,950,000	1.17	5,791,500	11,200	375	4,202,000	6,800	110	748,000
1999	20,000	265	5,300,000	1.20	6,360,000	11,000	404	4,445,000	9,000	95	855,000
2000	19,000	277	5,260,000	1.19	6,259,400	11,500	391	4,500,000	7,500	101	760,000
2001	9,000	367	3,300,000	1.27	4,191,000	6,700	477	3,199,000	2,300	44	101,000
2002	6,700	296	1,980,000	1.15	2,277,000	5,000	370	1,848,000	1,700	78	132,000
2003	6,200	335	2,075,000	1.01	2,095,750	4,100	460	1,886,000	2,100	90	189,000

Peggy Stringer  
State Statistician

Curtis Lund  
Deputy State Statistician

**SURVEY FUNDING:** The Alfalfa Seed Survey is funded by the Montana Alfalfa Seed Committee in cooperation with the Montana Department of Agriculture.



2004

Released: February 15, 2005

Alfalfa seed production for 2004 was estimated at 2.2 million pounds, up 7% from the revised 2003 production. Harvested acreage at 5,800 was down 400 acres from last year's acreage of 6,200 acres. The state average yield was estimated at 382 pounds per acre, up from the 335 pounds per acre a year ago. Irrigated yields averaged 532 pounds per acre, up from 460 pounds in 2003 and non-irrigated yields averaged 73 pounds per acre, down 17 pounds from last year.

Producers used an average of 3.8 gallons of leaf cutter bees per acre on all acres harvested for alfalfa seed in 2004, unchanged from a year ago. Leaf cutter bees were

used on 33% of the reported irrigated acres at the rate of 4.2 gallons per acre and 11% of the reported non-irrigated acres. Alfalfa seed growers who utilized leaf cutter bees produced an average of 75% more seed per acre than those that did not use bees to pollinate their crop.

Proprietary varieties made up 54% of this year's production, common uncertified varieties accounted for 45% of the production and common certified varieties represented 1%.

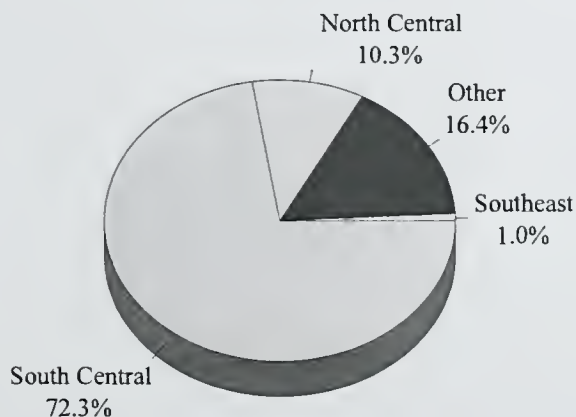
The average price received for the 2004 crop was \$0.99 per pound, down 2 cents from last year's average price.

## Montana Leaf Cutter Bees

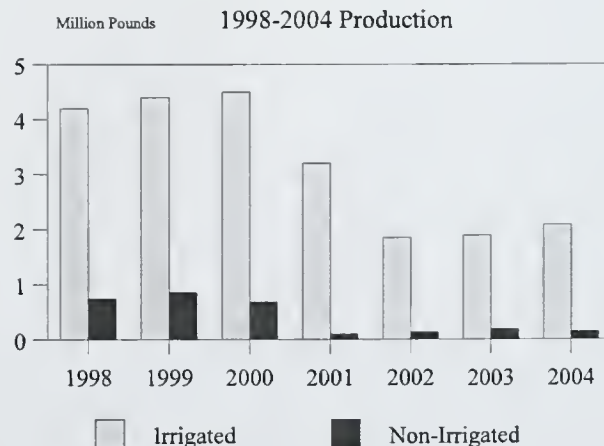
Year	Quantity Utilized Divided by Total Acres Harvested	Irrigated Acres		Non-Irrigated Acres	
		Acreage Utilized	Average Quantity Used	Acreage Utilized	Average Quantity Used
	Gallons/Acre	Percent	Gallons/Acre	Percent	Gallons/Acre
1999	1.1	71	2.5	13	1.8
2000	1.5	74	3.0	19	1.3
2001	2.1	84	3.1	21	2.7
2002	3.1	72	3.3	12	2.5
2003 1/	3.8	39	4.2	12	1.1
2004	3.8	33	4.2	11	2/

1/ Revised. 2/ Not available.

## Montana Alfalfa Seed 2004 District Production



## Montana Alfalfa Seed 1998-2004 Production





### ALFALFA SEED: Estimates by Agricultural Statistics Districts, 2004

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	1,400	162	227,000	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/
South Central	2,800	572	1,601,000	2,400	653	1,567,000	400	85	34,000
Southeast	400	55	22,000	0	0	0	400	55	22,000
Other Districts	1,200	303	364,000	1,500	339	508,000	1,100	75	83,000
Montana	5,800	382	2,214,000	3,900	532	2,075,000	1,900	73	139,000
1/ Combined with "other districts" to avoid disclosure of individual data.									

### ALFALFA SEED: Estimates by Agricultural Statistics Districts, 2003 1/

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	1,700	269	457,000	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
Northeast	700	359	251,000	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
South Central	2,800	341	954,000	2,000	443	886,000	800	85	68,000
Southeast	600	373	224,000	300	650	195,000	300	95	29,000
Other Districts	400	475	190,000	1,800	447	805,000	1,000	93	93,000
Montana	6,200	335	2,076,000	4,100	460	1,886,000	2,100	90	190,000

1/ Revised. 2/ Combined with “other districts” to avoid disclosure of individual data.

### ALFALFA SEED: Acreage, Production, Price, And Total Value, Montana

Year	TOTAL					IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Total Production	Price per Pound	Value of Production	Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Production Cleaned	Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Production Cleaned
	Acres	Pounds		Dollars	(000) Dollars	Acres	Pounds		Acres	Pounds	
1995	12,300	280	3,450,000	1.07	3,692	7,100	369	2,618,000	5,200	160	832,000
1996	11,500	440	5,060,000	1.18	5,971	8,700	533	4,640,000	2,800	150	420,000
1997	13,500	262	3,540,000	1.25	4,425	8,500	368	3,129,000	5,000	82	411,000
1998	18,000	275	4,950,000	1.17	5,792	11,200	375	4,202,000	6,800	110	748,000
1999	20,000	265	5,300,000	1.20	6,360	11,000	404	4,445,000	9,000	95	855,000
2000	19,000	277	5,260,000	1.19	6,259	11,500	391	4,500,000	7,500	101	760,000
2001	9,000	367	3,300,000	1.27	4,191	6,700	477	3,199,000	2,300	44	101,000
2002	6,700	296	1,980,000	1.15	2,277	5,000	370	1,848,000	1,700	78	132,000
2003	6,200	335	2,076,000	1.01	2,096	4,100	460	1,886,000	2,100	90	190,000
2004	5,800	382	2,214,000	0.99	2,182	3,900	532	2,075,000	1,900	73	139,000

Peggy Stringer  
Director

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Eric Siebens  
Mathematical Statistician

MAR 07 2005

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HELENA, MONTANA 59620

SURVEY FUNDING: The Alfalfa Seed Survey is funded by the Montana Alfalfa Seed Committee in cooperation with the Montana Department of Agriculture.

# Seed 2005

duction, Value and Leaf Cutter Bees



USDA,  
NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE  
Montana Field Office  
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nass-mt@nass.usda.gov

Released: February 3, 2006

Alfalfa seed production for 2005 was estimated at 2.5 million pounds, up 14% from the 2004 production. Harvested acreage at 6,100 was up 300 acres from last year's acreage of 5,800 acres. The Montana average yield was estimated at 413 pounds per acre, up from the 382 pounds per acre a year ago. Irrigated yields averaged 450 pounds per acre, down from 532 pounds in 2004, and non-irrigated yields averaged 224 pounds per acre, up 151 pounds from last year.

Producers used an average of 3.2 gallons of leaf cutter bees per acre on all acres harvested for alfalfa seed in 2005, down 0.6 gallons from a year ago. Leaf cutter bees were used on 44% of the reported irrigated

acres at the rate of 3.3 gallons per acre and 24% of the reported non-irrigated acres. Alfalfa seed growers who utilized leaf cutter bees produced an average of 37% more seed per acre than those that did not use bees to pollinate their crop.

Proprietary varieties made up 74% of this year's production, common uncertified varieties accounted for 25% of the production and common certified varieties represented 1%.

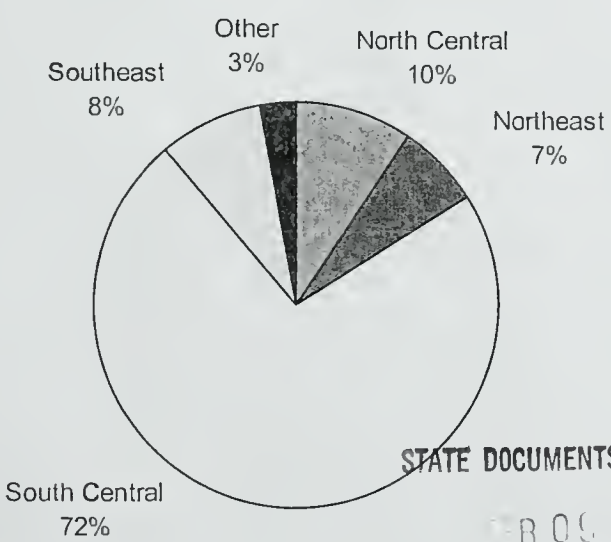
The average price received for the 2005 crop was \$1.13 per pound, up 14 cents from last year's average price.

Montana Leaf Cutter Bees 2001-2005

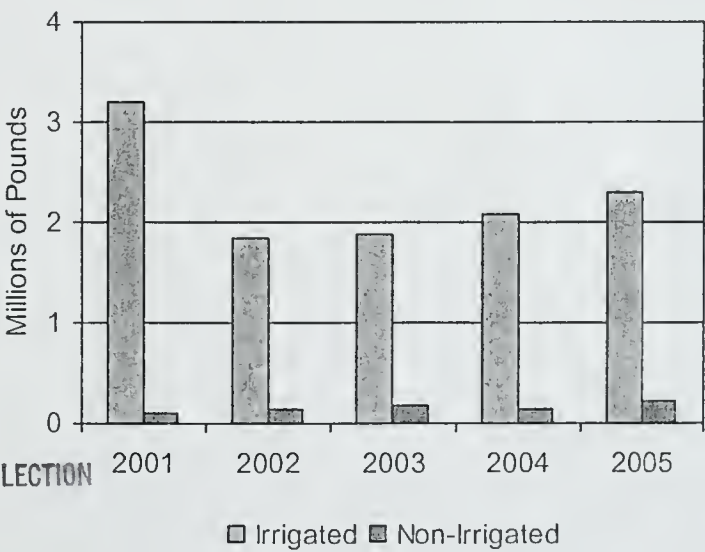
Year	TOTAL	IRRIGATED		NON-IRRIGATED	
	Gallons Used per Acre	Percent of Acreage	Gallons Used per Acre	Percent of Acreage	Gallons Used per Acre
2001	2.1	84%	3.1	21%	2.7
2002	3.1	72%	3.3	12%	2.5
2003	3.8	39%	4.2	12%	1.1
2004	3.8	33%	4.2	11%	--
2005	3.2	44%	3.3	24%	--

Years with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

2005 Alfalfa Seed Production by District



2001-2005 Alfalfa Seed Production



### Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2005

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	800	300	240,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Northeast	300	550	165,000	300	550	165,000	0	0	0
South Central	3,900	470	1,833,000	3,500	497	1,740,000	400	233	93,000
Southeast	800	261	209,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Districts	300	240	72,000	1,300	300	390,000	600	219	131,000
Montana	6,100	413	2,519,000	5,100	450	2,295,000	1,000	224	224,000

Districts with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

### Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2004

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	1,400	162	227,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
South Central	2,800	572	1,601,000	2,400	653	1,567,000	400	85	34,000
Southeast	400	55	22,000	0	0	0	400	55	22,000
Other Districts	1,200	303	364,000	1,500	339	508,000	1,100	75	83,000
Montana	5,800	382	2,214,000	3,900	532	2,075,000	1,900	73	139,000

Districts with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

### Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, Production and Value for Montana from 1996-2005

Year	TOTAL					IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production	Price per Pound	Total Value (\$1,000)	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production
			Pounds					Pounds			Pounds
1996	11,500	440	5,060,000	\$1.18	\$5,971	8,700	533	4,640,000	2,800	150	420,000
1997	13,500	262	3,540,000	\$1.25	\$4,425	8,500	368	3,130,000	5,000	82	410,000
1998	18,000	275	4,950,000	\$1.17	\$5,792	11,200	375	4,202,000	6,800	110	748,000
1999	20,000	265	5,300,000	\$1.20	\$6,360	11,000	404	4,445,000	9,000	95	855,000
2000	19,000	277	5,260,000	\$1.19	\$6,259	11,500	391	4,500,000	7,500	101	760,000
2001	9,000	367	3,300,000	\$1.27	\$4,191	6,700	477	3,199,000	2,300	44	101,000
2002	6,700	296	1,980,000	\$1.15	\$2,277	5,000	370	1,848,000	1,700	78	132,000
2003	6,200	335	2,076,000	\$1.01	\$2,097	4,100	460	1,886,000	2,100	90	190,000
2004	5,800	382	2,214,000	\$0.99	\$2,192	3,900	532	2,075,000	1,900	73	139,000
2005	6,100	413	2,519,000	\$1.13	\$2,846	5,100	450	2,295,000	1,000	224	224,000

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2006

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1515 E. 6th AVE.  
HELENA, MONTANA 59602

Peggy Stringer  
Director

Eric Siebens  
Mathematical Statistician

The Alfalfa Seed Survey is funded by the Montana Alfalfa Seed Committee in cooperation with the Montana Department of Agriculture.





# Alfalfa Seed 2006

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture  
10 W 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3100 · Helena, MT 59626  
800-835-2612 · 800-915-6277 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov/mt](http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt)

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## Alfalfa Seed 2006

*Acreage, Production, Value and Leaf Cutter Bees*

Released: February 12, 2007

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HELENA, MONTANA 59620

Alfalfa seed production for 2006 was estimated at 4.3 million pounds, up 70% from the 2005 production. Harvested acreage at 10,700 was up 4,600 acres from last year's acreage of 6,100 acres. The Montana average yield was estimated at 399 pounds per acre, down from the 413 pounds per acre a year ago. Irrigated yields averaged 518 pounds per acre, up from 450 pounds in 2005, and non-irrigated yields averaged 215 pounds per acre, down from 224 pounds last year.

irrigated acres at the rate of 3.0 gallons per acre. Alfalfa seed growers who utilized leaf cutter bees produced an average of 62% more seed per acre than those that did not use bees to pollinate their crop.

Proprietary varieties made up 78% of this year's production, common uncertified varieties accounted for 12% of the production and common certified varieties represented 10%.

Producers who used leaf cutter bees in 2006 used an average of 3.0 gallons of bees per acre, down 0.2 gallons from a year ago. Leaf cutter bees were used on 45% of the reported

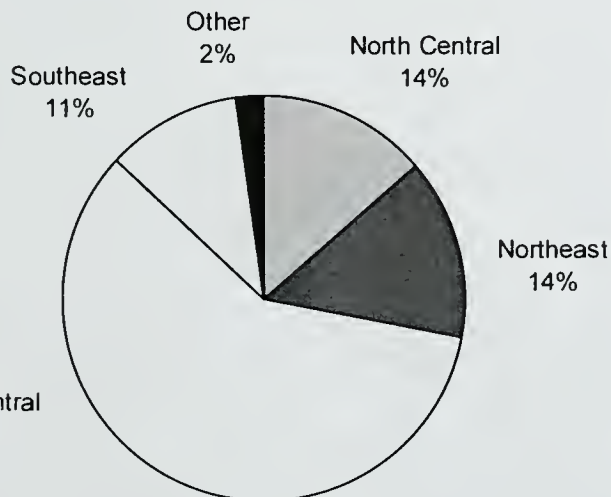
The average price received for the 2006 crop was \$1.13 per pound, unchanged from last year's average price.

### Montana Leaf Cutter Bees 2002-2006

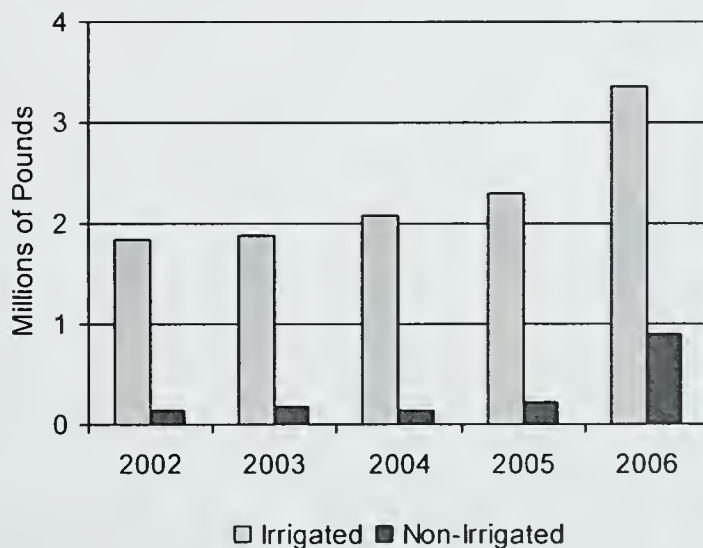
Year	TOTAL	IRRIGATED		NON-IRRIGATED	
	Gallons Used per Acre	Percent of Acreage	Gallons Used per Acre	Percent of Acreage	Gallons Used per Acre
2002	3.1	72%	3.3	12%	2.5
2003	3.8	39%	4.2	12%	1.1
2004	3.8	33%	4.2	11%	--
2005	3.2	44%	3.3	24%	--
2006	3.0	45%	3.0	--	--

Years with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

### 2006 Alfalfa Seed Production by District



### 2002-2006 Alfalfa Seed Production



**Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2006**

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	1,500	390	585,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Northeast	1,500	410	615,000	600	500	300,000	900	350	315,000
South Central	5,100	492	2,507,000	4,400	551	2,424,000	700	119	83,000
Southeast	2,400	197	473,000	300	177	53,000	2,100	200	420,000
Other Districts	200	450	90,000	1,200	492	590,000	500	170	85,000
Montana	10,700	399	4,270,000	6,500	518	3,367,000	4,200	215	903,000

Districts with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

**Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2005**

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	800	300	240,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Northeast	300	550	165,000	300	550	165,000	0	0	0
South Central	3,900	470	1,833,000	3,500	497	1,740,000	400	233	93,000
Southeast	800	261	209,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Districts	300	240	72,000	1,300	300	390,000	600	219	131,000
Montana	6,100	413	2,519,000	5,100	450	2,295,000	1,000	224	224,000

Districts with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

**Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, Production and Value for Montana from 1997-2006**

Year	TOTAL					IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production	Price per Pound	Total Value (\$1,000)	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production
		Pounds					Pounds			Pounds	
1997	13,500	262	3,540,000	\$1.25	\$4,425	8,500	368	3,129,000	5,000	82	410,000
1998	18,000	275	4,950,000	\$1.20	\$5,940	11,200	375	4,202,000	6,800	110	748,000
1999	20,000	265	5,300,000	\$1.20	\$6,360	11,000	404	4,445,000	9,000	95	855,000
2000	19,000	277	5,260,000	\$1.19	\$6,259	11,500	391	4,500,000	7,500	101	760,000
2001	9,000	367	3,300,000	\$1.27	\$4,191	6,700	477	3,199,000	2,300	44	101,000
2002	6,700	296	1,980,000	\$1.15	\$2,277	5,000	370	1,848,000	1,700	78	132,000
2003	6,200	335	2,075,000	\$1.01	\$2,096	4,100	460	1,886,000	2,100	90	189,000
2004	5,800	382	2,214,000	\$0.99	\$2,192	3,900	532	2,075,000	1,900	73	139,000
2005	6,100	413	2,519,000	\$1.13	\$2,846	5,100	450	2,295,000	1,000	224	224,000
2006	10,700	399	4,270,000	\$1.13	\$4,825	6,500	518	3,367,000	4,200	215	903,000

Peggy Stringer  
Director

Eric Siebens  
Mathematical Statistician

The Alfalfa Seed Survey is funded by the Montana Alfalfa Seed Committee in cooperation with the Montana Department of Agriculture.